



**THE WINIFRED MASTERSON
BURKE MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE, INC.**

785 Mamaroneck Avenue, White Plains, New York 10605
Telephone: (914) 597-2551, Fax: (914) 597-2225, www.burke.org

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United States Patent Office


To whom it may concern:

By way of introduction my name is Raj Ratan and I am current the Burke Professor of Neurology and Neuroscience at Weill Medical College and Executive Director of the Burke-Cornell Medical Research Institute. I received an M.D. and Ph.D. from New York University in 1988, followed by an internship in Medicine at the University of Chicago and a Neurology Residency at Johns Hopkins Hospital where I served as Chief Resident. I completed my fellowship in Neurorehabilitation before becoming an Assistant Professor of Neurology and Neuroscience at Johns Hopkins. I moved to the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and the Harvard Medical School in 1996 as an Assistant Professor. I treated patients with all types of Neurological conditions in an outpatient clinic and the general Neurology Ward. In 2003, I moved to Cornell to assume my current position.

My laboratory has focused on mechanisms of death in acute and chronic neurodegenerative conditions. While there are many causes of epilepsy, idiopathic epilepsy a very common form epilepsy. It is not associated with a chronic deteriorating clinical course or any histopathological evidence of progressive neurodegeneration. Idiopathic epilepsy is thus not considered a neurodegenerative disorder.

Please feel free to call my office with any questions.

Sincerely,


 Rajiv R. Ratan M.D., Ph.D.